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GENERAL

1. Views on proposals for German unification--The Berlin branch of the US High Commission expresses the view that the desirability for the Western Powers to make an "early determination" of their position on the issue of German unification is emphasized by the growing possibility that the USSR may seize the initiative on this issue in the near future. The Berlin branch believes the USSR may attempt to counter Western proposals on the German unity issue by offering all-German elections, a peace treaty, and the withdrawal of occupation troops on conditions which would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, for the West to meet at this time.

Meanwhile, the Department of State, in discussing the possibility of Western action on the German unity issue, has expressed the opinion that there are dangers in proceeding too far along the road to German unity based only on free elections. The Department adds that German unity could follow only after full agreement between the West and the USSR on the conditions under which the prospective all-German government would function.

NEAR EAST-AFRICA

2. JORDAN: King reported ready to resume Israeli talks--US Minister Drew in Amman has been informed by King Abdullah that following the Jordan parliamentary elections of 11 April 1950, he intends to resume peace negotiations with Israel and simultaneously to inform the Arab League of his action and call on the Arab states to negotiate with Israel. Abdullah added that if the other Arab states oppose his action, he is fully prepared to face expulsion from the League. Drew

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observes, however, that among Palestinian Arabs there is strong opposition to Jordan's negotiating with Israel and that Abdullah's "serene optimism" regarding the support he expects to result from the coming Jordan elections should therefore be regarded with caution.

(CIA Comment: CIA concurs in Minister Drew's estimate and believes that Abdullah is either talking for effect or seriously underestimating the dislocations that would result in the Arab world if he should persist in his stated intentions.)